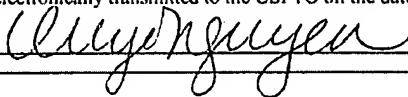


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted to the USPTO on the date shown below.

Date: October 25, 2007

Signature:



(Quyen Nguyen)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/615,491

Confirmation No.: 8889

Filing Date: July 7, 2003

Inventor(s): Bryan LOOMAS et al.

Title: EXTRAPLEURAL AIRWAY DEVICE AND METHOD

Examiner: Peter J. Vrettakos

Group Art Unit: 3739

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patent
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated October 1, 2007 for which a response is due on January 1, 2008. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the Remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.